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EAST TEXAS COLLOQUY

Ralph W. Steen, Past President of the East Texas Historical Association and President Emeritus of Stephen F. Austin State University, died on the afternoon of January 30, 1980. His passing is a loss to the Association, the state of Texas, and, indeed, all mankind. Dr. Steen's service is well known to his community, and many in that community have long realized that his service to his profession and the public also made him known as an educator of national stature. He is often cited as the "man who turned a dream into a reality" because of the dramatic growth of Stephen F. Austin State University during his administration as its third president. For him, this was true. For us, he was more the reality who inspired dreams of achievement and excellence.

Dr. Steen reflected dignity and integrity and gentleness in his relations with everyone. He met all on the level of human decency, and they knew it. His reserve and disdain for ostentation and mere pomp were well known, and his ingrained human dignity commanded respect when you were in his presence.

Some got to know Dr. Steen well, especially toward the end of his presidency, and these were privileged to learn a not-too-apparent aspect of his personality: he loved people, he loved to joke with them, and most of all, he loved for them to joke with him. Dr. Steen was loyal; he supported. He loved Stephen F. Austin State University and some of its people became as part of his family. It is a satisfying thing now for those who shared a part of his life to learn how many others felt they also enjoyed a "special" relationship with him. He loved Nacogdoches, and worked in quiet ways for its well being. He loved his state and nation, and approached both with a practical acceptance and hope. He believed in the function and service of the East Texas Historical Association. All are better for his having cared.

The Spring meeting of the East Texas Historical Association convened in Tyler on February 22nd and 23rd. We held the Friday evening session on the campus of the University of Texas at Tyler, and viewed the "Literary East Texas" exhibit prepared by Fred Tarpley. Later, the Association adjourned to the home of Dr. and Mrs. Donald W. Whisenhunt for a reception.

Saturday's sessions covered a variety of topics, including unionists in Texas, cotton and oil, and commerce and industry. The luncheon featured a presentation of the American Association for State and Local History Certificate of Commendation to the Association for "Activities that have encouraged the study of the region by both professional and lay historians." The presen-

tation was made by Millicent Huff, the AASLH's regional representative. Afterwards Margaret Rousavall presented a program on sacred harp music.

Ms. Buei Harwood (703 Knollwood Circle, Austin, Texas 78746) is working on a catalogue of structures in Texas that have decorative painting work in the building. If any of our readers know of such structures, Ms. Harwood would appreciate hearing about them.

A similar request for help comes from Pat Fleming of the Fleming Planning Consultant firm (Box 1482, Kerrville, Texas 78028). Fleming is researching the history of early Texas gardens. They wish to preserve information on the lay-out, type of enclosures, and other features. The firm would like to hear from anyone with information about early Texas gardens.

If you have already published since 1974 or plan to publish a book or pamphlet on an aspect of Texas or the Southwest, you should send a review copy of it to the Texas Bibliographical Society/Winter Wheat House.

The Society will cite and index the Texana and some Southwestern materials in its periodical TEXAS CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY & INDEX which goes to libraries, individuals, book stores, and publishing concerns. The Society is also cumulating, weeding, and adding to its 5 years of the TCBI and will have the work published as FIVE YEARS OF TEXAS.

Winter Wheat will use the same materials you send as a review copy for "The Southwestern Reader," a syndicated newspaper column of book reviews on Texas and the Southwest.

Send materials to: Will Howard, General Editor, Texas Bibliographical Society, Winter Wheat House, PO Drawer G, University Station, Austin, Texas 78712.

A Genealogical Society has been formed in Leon County. Memberships are available through the treasurer, Mrs. Geneva Wilson, P.O. Box 219, Centerville, Texas 75833, at \$5 per year. The group plans to issue a newsletter.

The Special Collections of Texas Woman's University Library has recently acquired for its Woman's Collection the mi-

crofilm edition of *Women and Law*, research materials on de facto sex discrimination. *Women and Law* joins several other remarkably comprehensive microform collections on women's history not otherwise available in the region, including *The History of Women*, 16,000 items about women which were originally published prior to 1920; *The Gerritsen Collection*, 4000 books, periodicals and pamphlets on women published between 1543 and 1945; *The National Woman's Party Papers*, correspondence, minutes and financial records of the NWP and its founder Alice Paul; the *Herstory* collection of current feminist periodicals, 1956-1974; *The Cornell University Collection of Women's Rights pamphlets*, 117 pamphlets published by individuals, organizations and governmental agencies between 1814 and 1912; and *The Bibliography of American Women*, a listing of 50,000 titles written by and about women in all major fields between 1600 and 1920.

On Sunday, March 2, the Nacogdoches Independent School District honored Dr. C.K. Chamberlain, a founder of the East Texas Historical Association and former editor of its *Journal*, by naming one of its buildings in his memory. Dr. Chamberlain served as teacher, principal, and superintendent of the school district before joining the faculty of Stephen F. Austin State University. Dr. Edwin Gaston and Mr. Lenvill B. Martin made dedicatory remarks and Mrs. C.K. Chamberlain responded for the family.

BOOK REVIEWS

Los Paisanos: Spanish Settlers on the Northern Frontier of New Spain. By Oakah L. Jones, Jr. (University of Oklahoma Press, 1005 Asp Avenue, Norman, Oklahoma 73069), 1979. Photographs, Notes, Bibliographical Essay, Index. p. 351. \$22.50.

Oakah Jones declares that

Spanish settlers on the frontier of New Spain were more numerous than has been supposed and . . . they not only developed a culture distinct from those in other parts of the viceroyalty but contributed markedly to the development and permanent occupation of . . . the far northern frontier of New Spain (xi).

He feels scholars have concentrated upon officials, churchmen and soldiers, ignoring the far more numerous civilian settlers who proved to be the lasting elements on the northern frontier. Deter-